

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 079161

64

ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

66606

DRAFTED BY:NEA/PAB:RAPECK

APPROVED BY:NEA:TTOMPKINS

S/S-O:PJOHNSON

----- 041153

R 081803Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 079161

EXDIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION TO SECSTATE APRIL 4, 1975 FROM NEW DELHI
REPEATED TO YOU:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 4555

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJECT: FIRST IMPRESSIONS

1. I HAVE NOW COMPLETED THE INITIAL FORMALITIES
EXPECTED OF AN AMBASSADOR HERE AND CAN REPORT THAT
WHILE MY RECEPTION HAS BEEN WARM AND CORRECT, THE
INDIANS ARE NOT TAKING PARTICULARLY GOOD CARE OF THEIR
RELATIONS WITH THE US THESE DAYS.

2. NEEDLESS TO SAY, I COULD HAVE ARRIVED IN INDIA AT
A BETTER TIME (I AGREE THAT IT WAS BEST THAT I WAIT
OUT THE EARLY FIREWORKS IN BANGKOK). NEVERTHELESS,
WITH THE PRESS CORPS LOOKING ON, THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
VERY CAREFULLY ARRANGED MY PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS
AND FIRST CALLS SO THAT THERE WAS NO CAUSE EVEN FOR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 079161

SPECULATION THAT I WAS KEPT WAITING. I DELIBERATELY

DECIDED TO AVOID DOING MUCH BUSINESS DURING MY TALKS WITH THE FOREIGN SECRETARY, THE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND THE PRIME MINISTER. ONE OR TWO THINGS WERE OF SIGNIFICANCE, HOWEVER. WHEN I TALKED TO THE FOREIGN SECRETARY ON MARCH 5, I MENTIONED THE CONTROVERSY OVER INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES IN THE US AND SAID THAT THESE WERE BEING BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL. WITH INDIA IN MIND HE SAID THAT IT COULD HAPPEN THAT SOMETHING COULD BE DONE WHICH WAS NOT AUTHORIZED. I TOLD HIM THAT I INTENDED TO WATCH OVER ALL US ACTIVITIES IN INDIA AND CATEGORICALLY ASSURED HIM THAT THERE WOULD BE NO US INTERFERENCE IN INDIAN AFFAIRS. (I CERTAINLY DON'T EXPECT THE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST US TO STOP BUT I DO INTEND CAREFULLY TO SUPERVISE OUR ACTIVITIES HERE AND HAVE ALREADY TAKEN STEPS TO AVOID AROUSING SUSPICIONS BY UNNECESSARY TRAVEL.)

3. ONE ASPECT OF MY CONVERSATION WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER ON APRIL 1 ILLUSTRATES WHAT I MEAN BY THE INDIANS NOT TAKING MUCH CARE OF THEIR RELATIONS WITH US. MAKING CONVERSTATION, I SAID THAT I WAS PLEASED THAT THE PL 480 AGREEMENT HAD BEEN COMPLETED. CHAVAN WAS NOT EVEN AWARE OF THIS AND HAD TO ASK HIS MAN TEJA WHAT HAD HAPPENED. (THE INDIANS IN WASHINGTON TOLD US THAT THEY WOULD ISSUE A PRESS RELEASE IN NEW DELHI. THEY DIDN'T AND THE SIGNING DIDN'T GET MUCH ATTENTION IN THE PAPERS HERE. AS USUAL THE DIFFICULTIES IN THE NEGOTIATIONS GOT MUCH MORE.)

4. AS I HAVE ALREADY REPORTED, THE PRIME MINISTER SEEMED UNUSUALLY FRIENDLY (THE MOST IN MY VARIOUS CONVERSATIONS WITH HER). THERE WERE STILL THE LONG SILENCES. IT IS A CURIOUS GOVERNMENT IN WHICH NEITHER THE PRIME MINISTER NOR THE FOREIGN MINISTER SAY MUCH TO REPRESENTATIVES FOR FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

5. IT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS FROM WHAT I HAVE SAID SO FAR THAT MY OFFICIAL CONVERSATIONS HAVE DONE LITTLE TO GIVE ME A FEEL FOR THE SITUATION OUT HERE. BUT I HAVE, IN THE COURSE OF THE ORDINARY THINGS A NEW AMBASSADOR DOES, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 079161

INCLUDING MY FIRST OFFICIAL VISITS TO BOMBAY AND MADRAS, DONE A LOT OF LISTENING TO INDIANS AND DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES. ALSO INDIA'S REMARKABLY FREE PRESS IS REVEALING. MY IMPRESSION IS THAT WHILE THE GOVERNMENT HERE WANTS TO PRESERVE A BASIS FOR A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US WHICH WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR IT TO GET THE THINGS FROM US IT WANTS, IT ISN'T WORKING VERY HARD AT IT. IT IS TRUE THAT THE INDIANS MAY HAVE MADE SOME EFFORT TO CONTAIN THEIR RE-

ACTION TO OUR ARMS SALES POLICY, BUT I DISAGREE WITH WASHINGTON THAT THEIR REACTION HAS BEEN MODERATE. I BELIEVE THAT WASHINGTON MAY ALSO UNDERESTIMATE THE INTENSITY AND SERIOUSNESS OF THEIR CONCERN OVER THE POLICY. ANOTHER THING WHICH I HAVE NOTICED IS THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE INDIANS CONTINUE TO JOIN UP WITH THE RADICAL NONALIGNED AND IN THE PROCESS TAKE ISSUE WITH US. WHETHER AT HAVANA OR LIMA, THEY PREACH AN INTERNATIONAL SHARE THE WEALTH DOCTRINE WHICH WOULD DESTROY US ALL. I HOPE TO GOD THE EGYPTIANS DO NOT GET THEM INVOLVED INIWHE GENEVA TALKS ON PALESTINE.

6. GIVEN ALL OF THIS, I THOUGHT IT IMPORTANT THAT I START OUT HERE ON THE RIGHT FOOT. I COULD NOT POSSIBLY ACCEPT THIS DISREGARD FOR US INTERESTS. CONSEQUENTLY, WHEN I HAVE HAD OFFICIAL TALKS, I HAVE STUCK CAREFULLY TO PROTOCOL AND AVOIDED BUSINESS: OTHERWISE I WOULD HAVE HAD TO HAVE BEEN UNPLEASANT. I HAVE DELIBERATELY SOPKEN QUITE FRANKLY TO THE PRESS IN ORDER TO GET GREATER REALISM INTO OUR RELATIONS. I HAVE MADE IT CLEAR I WAS NOT HERE TO IMPROVE THE CLIMATE OF RELATIONS: I WAS HERE TO REPRESENT MY GOVERNMENT. I HAVE SAID THAT GOOD RELATIONS WERE A TWO-WAY STREET AND MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE INITIATIVE WAS THAT OF THE GOVERNMENT HERE. I ALSO POINTED OUT THAT INDIA PAYS IN THE US FOR ITS RADICAL ACTIONS WITH THE NONALIGNED (RECOGNITION OF THE PLO). IN SAYING SUCH THINGS, I HAVE TAKEN SOME HEAT IN THE PRESS AND FROM LEFTIST POLITICIANS. I EXPECTED THIS AND TAKE IT AS EVIDENCE THAT I HAVE BEEN HEARD.

7. ANOTHER IMPRESSION WHICH MAY BE WORTH REPORTING IS THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE US IS BLAMED FOR INDIA'S AND THE WORLD'S ILLS. THERE IS A FASCINATION WITH THE US IN CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 079161

INDIA AND OUR DIFFICULTIES AROUND THE WORLD ARE REPORTED IN DETAIL AND FREQUENTLY WITH SATISFACTION. THE CHORUS ON THE CIA HAS BUILT UP AGAIN AND WE ARE ACCUSED OF EVERYTHING FROM PLOTTING THE MURDER OF INDIAN OFFICIALS TO SUPPORTING JAYAPRAKASH NARAYAN IN HIS AGITATION AGAINST MRS. GANDHI. IN FAIRNESS, MOST OF THIS COMES FROM THE IRRESPONSIBLE PAPERS AND LEFTIST POLITICIANS BUT ON OCCASION A STATE POLITICAL LEADER OR A CONGRESS PARTY OFFICIAL CHIMES IN. THIS WILL PROBABLY INCREASE UNTIL MRS. GANDHI HOLDS ELECTIONS IN THE NEXT 8-12 MONTHS.

8. ALL OF THIS CONVINCES ME THAT LIFE IS GOING TO BE SLOW IN NEW DELHI FOR A WHILE. I DON'T INTEND ANY INITIAVITES TO SPEED IT UP: THAT IS FOR THE INDIANS. I AM QUITE PREPARED TO TAKE IT EASY FOR A WHILE.

SAXBE
UNQUOTE KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE079161
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA/PAB:RAPECK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750122-0774
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750470/aaaacmna.tel
Line Count: 171
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <21 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIRST IMPRESSIONS
TAGS: PFOR, IN, US, (SAXBE, WILLIAM B)
To: ISLAMABAD
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006